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DEC 27, 1971

Monday

Dear Mary & Mike,

We got your present on Saturday and have been enjoying it since then. The cheeses are very good and the cookies are surprisingly fresh. The cornedbeef is something we can use a lot - thank you! We will get you a somewhat belated present in Russia.

We leave next ~~two~~ Wednesday and just about have all the things we need. It will be hard getting everything into two suitcases but that is all we are allowed. Our tickets arrived today along with a brochure telling how pleasant it is in Russia during the

winter. Of course, we have to be prepared for snow and cold but I hope to take lots of slides.

We have been busy lately and have gone to several parties. Also, there are some more possible "business" trips coming up. I will probably have to visit San Diego in January, maybe Albuquerque in March and very likely California again in June. I have my application on file at three laboratories in California, but don't know when anything will come of them. Hope you are having a good time these days. Merry Christmas,

Jim